

Amendments to the Specifications

On page 3, change paragraph title “**Description of Drawings**” to new title: “**Brief Description of Drawings**”.

On page 3, replace paragraph under “**Prior Art**” section with new paragraphs as follows:

A number of items with a similar intended purpose to protect grease fittings have been invented in the past. However, they do not afford nearly as many effective features as the cap described in this paper. The primary benefit of the cap described in this paper is the large, flared end to which the cap is affixed to a grease zerk. The large flare affords the retaining lip with a great deal of circumferential authority, which prevents the cap from falling off due to centrifugal force as found on rotating shafts. The flare also serves another purpose; it affords an effective means to remove leftover grease from greasing and prevents the cap from becoming slippery. The large domed end opposite the flared end is necessary for removal due to the fact that the flared end grips the grease fitting with such authority. The cap described in this paper will fit on virtually any grease fitting known, where most other caps are limited in application.

The patents to Kennedy (2,379,529), Marchelewicz (2,530,888), Heller (2,928,500), and Economaki (4,453,618) disclose grease fitting covers which have very little gripping authority around the neck of the fitting and have no scraper flare. Some of these caps do not have a sufficient means of gripping for removal.

The patent to Miller (2,599,472) discloses a cap which has a strap. The strap must be installed over the threaded area of the fitting, which requires the grease fitting to be removed every time a cap is installed the first time. More importantly, upon closer examination it is noticed that the cap is designed for an obsolete type of grease fitting which is no longer used today. There is no check ball inside the entrance of the grease fitting, and this cap has a centralized projection which requires a grease fitting with no check ball. All grease fittings at

the present time have check balls which protrude slightly out of the fitting, which effectively prevents the use of this cap. The cap also has no scraper flare.

The patent to Borah (3,332,515) discloses a cap with no means of removal, no retention lip and no scraper flare. More importantly, upon closer examination it is noted that the cap has a specific hexagonal shape and size which is intended to fit over the hexagonal area of the grease fitting, which is used to install the grease fitting. This greatly limits the use of the cap due to the fact that there are many different sizes of hexagonal areas on grease fittings. Therefore, this cap cannot be used at all on many grease fittings which renders it useless.

Other various caps have been invented for use on related fittings such as bleed screws. However, they bear little similarity to the cap described in this paper and cannot be used on grease fittings.